

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:	Dwight A. Burford et al.	Confirmation No.:	8066
Appl. No.:	10/706,480	Group Art Unit:	1725
Filed:	October 27, 2003	Examiner:	Lynne Renee Edmondson
For:	SYSTEM AND ASSOCIATED FRICTION STIR WELDING (FSW) ASSEMBLY, CONTROLLER AND METHOD FOR PERFORMING A FRICTION STIR WELDING OPERATION		

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Sir:

Attached is a list of documents on form PTO-1449 along with a copy of any cited foreign patent documents and non-patent literature document in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2). Also enclosed is a translation or a concise explanation of each non-English language document. More particularly, and in accordance with MPEP 609.04(a), Applicant encloses an English-language version of an action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, the action indicating the degree of relevance of each non-English language document found by that office.

It is requested that the Examiner consider these documents and officially make them of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and Section 609 of the MPEP. By identifying the listed documents, Applicant in no way makes any admission as to the prior art status of the listed documents, but is instead identifying the listed documents for the sake of full disclosure.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), before final Office Action or Allowance, whichever is earlier. In this regard, Applicant notes that a final Office Action was issued on July 25, 2006. As explained in Applicant's response of November 15, 2006, however, the final Official Action was prematurely issued due to the introduction of the new grounds of rejection. Applicant therefore submits this

In re: Dwight A. Burford et al.  
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Page 2

Information Disclosure Statement with the presumption that the finality of the previous Office Action has been withdrawn.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the \$180.00 fee specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) or any additional fee, or credit any refund, to our Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449/PTO (Revised 07/2005)  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/706,480
				Filing Date	October 27, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Dwight A. Burford
				Group Art Unit	1725
Examiner Name	Lynne Renee Edmondson				
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	038190/268379

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number Number - Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages of Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code - Number Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	English Language Translation Attached	Abstract
	26	JP 61253189 A	11-11-1986	Uchihashi Yoshiharu			X
	27	JP 09248678 A	09-22-1997	Nissan Motor Co. Ltd.			X

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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Examiner Name	Lynne Renee Edmondson				
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	038190/268379
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			English Language Translation Attached
	28	Remarks regarding Inquiry from Japanese Patent Office; 2 pages; August 2006.			
	29	TAKASHI KITAHARA, KAZUYOSHI KATO, HIROSHI TOKISUE; <i>Some Characteristics of Friction Stir Welded AZ31 Magnesium Alloy Joint</i> ; Summary of Japan Welding Society National Convention Lectures; Japan Welding Society, March 2001; 3 pages; Vol. 68.			
	30	MASAMI TSUBAKI, MASAHIRO FUKUMOTO, TOSHIKI YASUI; <i>Evaluation of Joining Property Between Steel and Aluminum by Friction Stirring</i> ; Summary of Japan Welding Society National Convention Lectures, Japan Welding Society; March 2003; 3 pages; Vol. 72.			

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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